

Remarks:

The above amendments and these remarks are responsive to the Office action dated November 16, 2005.

Prior to entry of this Amendment, claims 24-28, 35-38 and 41-46 remained pending in the present application. Claims 24-28 and 41-46 have been allowed. Claims 35-38, however, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on Chiang et al. (US 4,598,305) In view of Kamiya et al. (US 4,622,656) and Manning (US Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0000494).

Although applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's rejection of claims 35-38, in the interest of furthering prosecution of the present application to issuance, such claims have been cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, all pending claims are believed to be in allowable form. Applicant thus respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending claims.

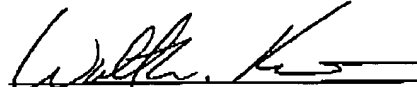
Regarding the Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter, applicant agree with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability, without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, applicant believes that the application is allowable because the prior art fails to teach, anticipate or render obvious the invention as claimed.

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Applicant believes that this application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner disagrees or has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, the Examiner is asked to please contact the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner F. Erdem, Group Art Unit 2826, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, at facsimile number (571) 273-8300 on February 8, 2006.



Christie A. Doolittle

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